

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 4, 7, 17, 35, and 37, and 39 have been amended. Claims 40-42 have been added. Claims 8, 9, 11-13, 20-22, 24-26, and 29-34 are withdrawn. Claims 4, 7-13, 20-22, 24-26, and 29-42 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 7, 10, 17, and 35-42 are currently under consideration.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER AND NEW CLAIMS

The Examiner has indicated that claims 4, 17, and 39 contain allowable subject matter, but are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten claims 4, 17, and 39 in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 40-42 have been added to set forth the invention in varying scope, based on new independent claims 4, 17, and 39.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action at page 3, numbered item 6, claims 7, 10, and 35-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,553,494 to Glass. This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 7, in its newly amended form, is directed to an authentication device that uses anatomical information and anatomical collection order information specifying a collection order in which anatomical information is generated by each of a plurality of anatomical information generating units. Amended independent claim 7 recites, in relevant part, "a plurality of anatomical information generating units each generating anatomical information, at least one of the anatomical information generating units generating anatomical information based on at least a collected image." Further, amended independent claim 7 recites "an identification information generating unit generating identification information which comprises at least anatomical collection order information specifying a collection order in which the anatomical information is generated in each of the anatomical information generating units." Support for the amendments to claim 7 can be found in the originally filed Specification at least at page 22, line 21 to page 23, line 3.

In contrast, Applicants respectfully submit that Glass teaches a time stamp which is lost in a hash function. Applicants respectfully submit that the time stamp taught by Glass differs from the anatomical collection order information of the present invention. In a non-limiting example, the present invention offers a security advantage in that, if anatomical information is not received from specific equipment in the order indicated by the anatomical collection order information, a problem such as a failure in the transmission line or a breach in security can be detected. Further, information about the route taken between the obtaining device and the authentication device can also be used as identification information. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 7 and claim 10 depending therefrom patentably distinguish over Glass and are in condition for allowance.

Similarly, independent claim 35 has been amended to recite a method including “generating anatomical information in each of a plurality of times, at least a portion of the generated anatomical information being based on a collected image,” and “generating identification information which comprises at least order information specifying a collection order in which the anatomical information is generated in each of the plurality of times of generating anatomical information.” Independent claim 37 has been similarly amended. Support for the amendment of claims 35 and 37 can also be found in the originally filed Specification, at least at page 22, line 21 to page 23, line 3. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 35 and 37 and claims 36 and 38 depending therefrom patentably distinguish over Glass for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35-38 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

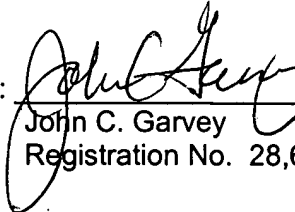
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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